

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

September 3, 2008

BILL 10, 2008, CD1, CD2

RELATING TO TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

SEP 2 7 13 AM '08

Aloha Chair Kobayashi and Executive Committee Members:

RECEIVED

Bill 10 is a Big Bad Rampant Development Bill, and Bill 10, CD2 cannot be supported because someone has slipped in a **hotel** development allowance to sweeten the pot for special interests. Honolulu has zoning laws in the public interest for very good reason. We do not want industrial and resort districts and uses in our neighborhoods.

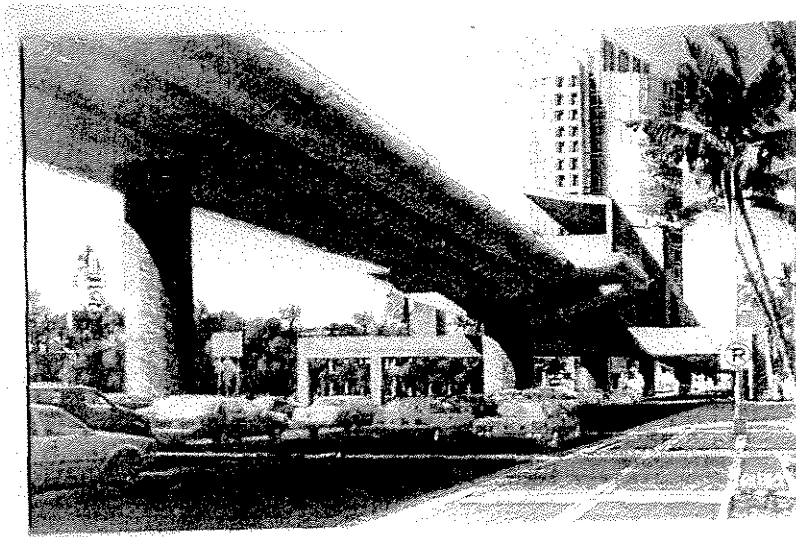
The steel-on-steel train guideway behemoth is planned to bisect newly-planned human-scale neighborhoods in Kaka'ako Mauka. The planned low-rise neighborhoods are a positive and beneficial result of community-based planning efforts for the revised Mauka Area Plan now undergoing environmental review. Coupled with this impact to the new neighborhoods would be two elevated transit stations, each surrounded by ¼ mile of TOD development. This amounts to TOD development consuming a majority of Kaka'ako Mauka.

Bill 10, CD2 provides some troubling exemptions to protective zoning provisions for Oahu's communities along the planned rail route. Specifically these exemptions are increased building heights and densities as trade-offs for community amenities, and **hotels**.

In addition, Bill 10, CD2 provides for the identification, protection and enhancement of important historic, scenic, and cultural landmarks. While this is consistent with Federal and State historic preservation laws, how will this protection be accomplished along the Honolulu Waterfront for three important registered historic sites, Aloha Tower, Irwin Park and the Dillingham Transportation Building? All three will be adversely impacted and overshadowed by parallel elevated rail infrastructure and a huge transit station over Nimitz Highway.

A fourth registered historic site, Mother Waldron Playground, is contiguous to the same elevated rail route and will be similarly overshadowed by the elevated infrastructure planned to bridge Halekauwila Street and bisect the newly-planned neighborhood.

Would you want this behemoth industrial infrastructure and sky-rise hotel where you live?



Please kill Bill 10; Bill 10,CD1; and Bill 10,CD2.